

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MARSEI 00150 252043Z

20

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

XMB-02 TRSE-00 COME-00 /066 W

----- 094671

R 251530Z MAR 75

FM AMCONSUL MARSEILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 981

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

COMSIXTHFLT

CINCUSNAVEUR

USCINCEUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MARSEILLE 150

MILITARY ADDRESSEES PASS POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT MARR FR

SUBJECT: COMSIXTHFLT VISIT MARSEILLE

1. SUCCESSFUL VISIT COMSIXTHFLT TO MARSEILLE MARCH 19-25
MARKED BY TOTAL LACK OF DEMONSTRATIONS OR COMMENT IN COMMUNIST
MEDIA. ALTHOUGH LOCAL PC CELLS BUSY WITH PUBLIC ACTION AGAINST
"OIL MONOPOLIES", GOF EDUCATIONAL REFORM AND WINE IMPORT POLICIES,
WE EXPECTED NATURAL FOLLOWUP TO CAMPAIGN AGAINST "ATLANTISM"
AND NATO THAT BEGAN WITH PROTESTS OVER MARINE TRAINING AT
CANJUERS LAST FEBRUARY.

2. MARSEILLE SOCIALIST DAILY "LE PROVENCAL", CONSERVATIVE
DAILY "LE MERIDIONAL" AND "LE DAUPHINE LIBERE" ALL CARRIED
STORIES, PHOTOS ON VISIT AND COVERED SIXTH FLT BAND CONCERTS
IN ARLES, AVIGNON AND BEZIERS. PRESENCE COMSIXTHFLT MARSEILLE
WAS THUS KNOWN TO PARTY RANK AND FILE.

3. LACK OF COMMUNIST REACTION COULD BE RESULT CURRENT SPREAD OF
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PC ACTIVITIES ON DOMESTIC AND REGIONAL POLITICAL/ECONOMIC

QUESTIONS. MORE LIKELY THAT PEACEFUL RECEPTION DUE TO IRON HAND
OF SOCIALIST DEPUTY-MAYOR DEFFERRE WHO MAKES GREAT EFFORT TO
CONTROL POLITICAL ACTIONS THAT COULD EFFECT MARSEILLE'S REPUTATION
AS LEADING INTERNATIONAL PORT.
SIMPSON

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NNN

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